

Truths We Teach

Revisions

The Chapel Elders have just completed a major revision of the **Truths We Teach** (TWT). This is the first major revision in over 15 years. During that time we have grown much in our theology, as elders and as a church. Our more recent teaching on Eschatology and New Covenant Theology, a number of New Testament books and in the Bible Study Workshops has provided both the foundation and the necessity for these revisions.

You are receiving this set of documents as someone who has affirmed the now replaced **Truths We Teach** as a part of your qualifications to teach at the Chapel. You will be required to affirm the revised **Truths We Teach** to continue to serve as a teacher.

Summary of Revisions

The following summarizes the major changes in the Revision 2 of the Truths We Teach.

1. Christ-centeredness

The Revised Truths We Teach affirms the Christ-centeredness of the Bible. This affects our understanding of the Biblical Theology, the hermeneutics and the central themes of the Scriptures.

2. New Covenant Theology

In many places, our belief in and teaching of New Covenant Theology is reflected.

The major changes are in the section on The Church, page 7; Theology of Fulfillment, page 10;

3. Hermeneutics

Rather than relying on a Dispensational Grammatical-Historical Literal way of handling the Bible, we have articulated a Redemptive-Historical Grammatical Linguistic way of understanding the Bible. This recognizes the essential Old Covenant, New Covenant structure of the Bible reflecting a Promise-Fulfillment flow.

The major changes are in the section on The Scriptures, pages 1-2.

4. Eschatology

In the 5 year Eschatology Series, and particularly in the expositions of Daniel 7 and 9, Matthew 24-25, 1st and 2nd Thessalonians, we taught from the pulpit a Pre-Wrath/Post-Tribulational view of the Lord's return. That schema has been generally included in the new TWT.

We also taught that either a Historic Premillennial or Amillennial position were defensible from the Scriptures. Historical Premillennialism supports a future, literal 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth but not as a return to the Temple, sacrifices, Jewish rule, etc. Amillennialism is simply that there is no literal, future 1,000 year reign. The **Truths We Teach** is worded in such a way as to be open to either position.

The major changes are in the section on God the Son, pages 3-4; Things to Come, page 10

5. Spiritual Gifts

The revised **Truths We Teach** reflects our current exposition of 1 Corinthians and our understanding of the nature, type and continued use of spiritual gifts.

The major changes are in the section God the Holy Spirit, page 6; The Church, pages 8-9;

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Instructions

Affirmation Process

The process is as follows:

1. Read the ***Truths We Teach***.
2. The last two pages of the ***Truths We Teach*** document is an affirmation form. This form is available as a fillable PDF form or as a printed document.
 - a. Tick the check box that you have received the document and type/print your name.
 - b. Choose one of the options and tick the box. Please do NOT tick both. Your options are:

You are in substantial agreement with the whole of the ***Truths We Teach***.

You are in substantial agreement with the ***Truths We Teach*** except:

You may then identify the section and page number you are not in substantial agreement with. Any needed explanation or reason can be filled in Applicant Notes or on an attached sheet.
 - c. Even if you have an exception above, please tick the check box that you are willing to teach according to the ***Truths We Teach*** and not to contradict it your public ministry. If you are unwilling to affirm this, you will not be allowed to continue in teaching until this is settled.
 - d. Please type (if PDF Form) or sign and date.
 - e. Fill in the ministry or ministries in which you are being approved for teaching.
 - f. If you have attached pages, please put in the number of attached pages so that we will be sure to keep them together.
 - g. The reverse side is for Administrative use only by Elders and Office staff.
3. Please complete the form and return it as instructed.
4. If you stated an exception, then your affirmation will be taken under consideration by the Elders and reviewed.

Thank you so much for your willingness to serve using your gifts and abilities at the Chapel. If you have any questions about the ***Truths We Teach*** or this process, please talk to your Elder.